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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 14, 1956

Procedure for Providing Guidance to Civil Aeronautics Board
on Matters of National Interest

Problem:

The Civil Aeronautics Board has before it, from time to time, matters in which it must make rulings affecting the foreign activities of U. S. air carriers including, among other things, their affiliation or association with feeder lines and other carriers in relatively underdeveloped countries. In making its decisions, the CAB is enjoined by statute to take into account the national interest. It is desirable to assure that there are adequate arrangements for liaison between CAB and other departments of the Government so that guidance on the national interest can be promptly given.

Procedure:

Cases involving foreign operations as described above come initially before the Bureau of Air Operations of the CAB. The following procedure is proposed:

(a) The Director of the Bureau of Air Operations of the CAB will be responsible for identifying those cases in which an expression of the national interest should be obtained from State and Defense. In such cases he will get in touch with designated points of contact in Defense and State.

(b) The point of contact in Defense should be at the Department of Defense level since the guidance given to CAB should encompass all the interests of the Department of Defense and all the Services. When the point of contact in

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the Department of Defense has been approached by the Director of the Bureau of Air Operations, the former will be responsible for obtaining the views of all relevant parts of Defense and relaying them to CAB.

(c) The point of contact in the Department of State will be responsible for obtaining the views of all relevant parts of the State Department, including the political components and those responsible for intelligence matters and will relay to CAB the comprehensive views of the Department of State.

In the first instance the approach from the Bureau of Air Operations may be informal, and an informal response may be all that is needed, as the matter may be handled in that Bureau without a hearing by the CAB. If, however, the matter is to be taken up in substance by the CAB itself, the Bureau of Air Operations may request a written expression of views from either Defense or State. Such views may, when necessary, be classified and need not be transmitted in such a way as to become part of the formal record of proceedings of the CAB.

The Director of the Bureau of Air Operations of CAB is Mr. Joseph H. Fitzgerald. The designated point of contact in the Department of Defense is Mr. Earl Smith who is Director of Transportation and Communications in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Supply and Logistics. The point of contact in the Department of State is Mr. Edward A. Bolster who is Chief of Aviation Division.